

SECOND TAXING DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Special Elector's Budget Meeting

April 17, 2012

Present:	Al Ayme Maria Borges-Lopez Mary Geake Mary Mann	Vice Chairman
Also Present:	John M. Hiscock Gwendolyn Gonzalez Kevin Barber	General Manager Assistant Clerk Director Admin. & Customer Service
Absent:	Mary Burgess Sherelle Harris César Ramirez	
Electors Present:	Shylethia Brown Jim Delgreco Thursa Merritt Elijah Smalls Marie Myrca Keen Ernie Dumas Kurt Schaaf Michael Mushak Nabil Valencia T. C. Burt David Westmont	Travis Simms Carvin Hilliard Mary Smalls Darlene Young Sherwood Taylor Donnie Sellers Sandra Stokes Phaedra Bowman Sophia Gevas Dawn Delgreco Valerie Lyons
Non-Electors:	Elizabeth Ashley Sheree Evans	Corrine Weston Bruce Morris

Call To Order:

Commissioner Ayme called the Special Budget Meeting of The Second Taxing District Commissioners to order at 8:15 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17, 2012. The meeting was held at South Norwalk Electric and Water, One State Street, Norwalk, Connecticut.

Legal Call:

Commissioner Ayme: "Can I have your attention please. The meeting of the Electors' of the Second Taxing District for Tuesday, April 17, 2012 is now called to order at 8:15 p.m. I am going to ask the Clerk to read the notice [directed to Ms. Gonzalez]."

Ms. Gonzalez read the following legal notice for the record:

LEGAL NOTICE

*NOTICE AND WARNING TO THE ELECTORS
OF THE SECOND TAXING DISTRICT
OF THE CITY OF NORWALK*

The legal voters of the Second Taxing District of the City of Norwalk are hereby notified and warned that the Special Budget Meeting of the ELECTORS of the Second Taxing District will be held at South Norwalk Electric and Water, One State Street, Norwalk, Connecticut on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 beginning at 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

- 1. To Approve the Proposed 2012-2013 Budget of the Second Taxing District, City of Norwalk as approved and recommended by the District Commissioners.*

In accordance with Section 1-81 of the District Charter, you are hereby notified that copies of the entire District Budget of the Second Taxing District of the City of Norwalk will be available for inspection by the public effective April 11, 2012. A copy may be obtained from the District Clerk at the office of the Second Taxing District, 164 Water Street, Norwalk, Connecticut.

Dated this 5th day of April 2012

*Attest:
Gwendolyn Gonzalez
Assistant District Clerk*

Commissioner Ayme: "Thank you. Alright we are here to approve and ratify the Budget that was approved and recommended by the Second Taxing District Commissioners on March 27, 2012 and just to bring you up to date this Budget for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year was revised subsequent to that meeting by the Commissioners. Now I am going to ask Mr. Hiscock to explain the revisions that were made to the Budget."

Mr. Hiscock: "After the Electors rejected the Budget and made comment to the Commission, the Commission met, listened to the comments and restored to the Budget the Youth Summer Employment Funds in the amount of the previous year which was \$15,500 and it appears in the Budget on page 3. In addition to that, the Commission has restored the full \$25,000 to the Electric Customer Assistance Program and that appears on page 12. At the bottom of the page you can see Customer Assistance Program, \$25,000. The Commissioners restored \$2,500 of the Miscellaneous Community Service Projects from the prior \$7,500 year that was deleted from the first Budget presented to you. They restored \$2,500 based on the amount that has been used in the recent past. In addition to that there were several minor changes to the Budget including the Operations of the Utilities. Those were not controversial issues and they were projects that were added to the Capital Program. So I am going to start with the District. Are there any questions with respect to what was restored to the District Budget or any questions about the District Budget? Best place to look at it is on page 3 and the items \$2,500 and \$15,500 are about three quarters the way down the page on page 3 under the left most column of numbers. So, those are back in and again we mentioned page 12 is where the \$25,000 is for the Customer Assistance Program and that is the amount that was in prior year's budgets. Any questions? Yes?"

Michael Mushak: "I am just curious, the Art Park and Heritage Wall, is there an arrangement? I assume those numbers are for maintenance and those have been eliminated as they are zero."

Mr. Hiscock: "Yes."

Michael Mushak: "I am just curious if an arrangement has been made with the City or with some other entity to take over that maintenance?"

Mr. Hiscock: "No, no arrangement has been made. Certainly pending the outcome of this meeting we are not in a position to notify the City because we did not have a final budget. We will notify the City that the funds have been removed from our Budget and the City can react as they deem appropriate. The areas actually aren't City property, they are actually State property. They are highway remnants and the City received permission I believe, Peter's Park through Clean & Green and the Heritage Wall originally from former Mayor O'Connor. Ok, but we will notify the City and we presume they will take care of the spaces."

Michael Mushak: "Ok. I am sure they will."

[Laughter]

Jim Delgreco: "Mike, another spot for you to adopt."

Michael Mushak: "Oh please."

[Laughter]

Mr. Hiscock: "Yes."

Unidentified Participant: "The energy assistance which we send to NEON. Do we know why they use our money first and then return funds to the federal government?"

Mr. Hiscock: "NEON has very specific guidelines with respect to the amount of money they can disperse and it has to match their program. So it is limited in the dollar amount per individual and I don't know exactly what their guidelines are but if they do not have enough people applying, they have no choice but to return it. So, they don't have the ability to say, there is as an example, there is \$250,000 in the pot and we just give it out until it is done. They can only give out the approved allotment based on the State program, so it is usually a lack of people applying."

Sherwood Taylor: "What I think he is saying is why don't they return some of our money to the Second Taxing District as opposed to giving it pro-rated either way. Why do we always get zero and the government get's theirs. Am I understanding your question correctly?"

Mr. Hiscock: "We don't always get zero. There had been years where they don't expend all of the funds. We dole it out to them in several checks during the year, they provide us an accounting. We know what the accounting is obviously because we see the customer accounts as it comes back to us in a single check. So if they do not have enough eligible people we will get money back. Because we give money out other than energy assistance there may be a larger pool of people eligible to collect, but we also do have a program that specifically sets dollar amounts."

Unidentified Participant: "Thank you."

Commissioner Ayme: "Any other questions, any other questions? Ok, I am going to ask for a motion to approve the proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year 2012-2013."

Sherwood Taylor: "So moved."

Commissioner Ayme: "So moved. Any second?"

Unidentified Participant: "Second."

Commissioner Ayme: "All those in favor?"

Unanimous: "Aye"

Commissioner Ayme: "Opposed?" [Silence] Ok, let's do it again. All those in favor?"

Mr. Hiscock: "We are going to need a count."

[Clerk Counts: 24 in Favor, 1 Opposed]

Mr. Hiscock: "Ok, I missed Commissioner Ayme. Ok, opposed? Ok, passed."

Commissioner Ayme: "Ok, the motion carries. We need a motion to adjourn."

Commissioner Mann: "Motion to adjourn."

Commissioner Ayme: "Second?"

Unidentified Participant: "Second."

Commissioner Ayme: "Thank you."

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Attest:

Gwendolyn Gonzalez
Assistant Clerk

Transcribed by: Lisa Roland